

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An information processing system, comprising:
a first computing device configured to:
receive a data stream containing first information that has been formed according to application software instructions;
independent of the application software instructions, form second information for causing a second computing device to perform an operation;
in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute protocol stack instructions to ~~form a data portion of a packet that includes~~ create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and
output the ~~packet~~ one or more packets to the second computing device.
2. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is configured to:
in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute the protocol stack instructions for ~~forming the packet~~ creating the one or more packets in accordance with a network protocol.
3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 2 wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.
4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 2 wherein the network protocol is UDP/IP.
5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 2 wherein the first computing device is configured to:

output the ~~packet~~ one or more packets to the second computing device through a network in accordance with the network protocol.

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 5 wherein the network is a global computer network.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 5 wherein the network is an IP network.

8. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device is configured to:

in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, execute the protocol stack instructions ~~for forming the packet including~~ for creating the one or more packets, wherein the one or more packets each contain a header portion and ~~[[the]]~~ a data portion, the header ~~portion~~ portions each including at least one header, and the data ~~portion~~ portions collectively including at least the first and second information.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the second computing device is a client computing device.

10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 9 wherein the operation includes maintaining a session.

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10 wherein the operation includes maintaining a session by addressing a subsequent packet to the first computing device.

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 9 wherein the operation includes modifying state information.

13. (Currently amended) A method performed by a first computing device of an information processing system, the method comprising:

receiving a data stream containing first information that has been formed according to application software

instructions;

independent of the application software instructions, forming second information for causing a second computing device to perform an operation;

in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, executing protocol stack instructions to ~~form a data portion of a packet that includes~~ create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

outputting the ~~packet~~ one or more packets to the second computing device.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the method comprises:

in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, executing the protocol stack instructions for ~~forming the packet~~ creating the one or more packets in accordance with a network protocol.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the network protocol is UDP/IP.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the method comprises:

outputting the ~~packet~~ one or more packets to the second computing device through a network in accordance with the network protocol.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the network is a global computer network.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the network is an IP network.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the method comprises:
in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, executing the protocol stack instructions ~~for forming the packet including~~ for creating the one or more packets, wherein the one or more packets each contain a header portion and ~~[[the]]~~ a data portion, the header ~~portion~~ portions each including at least one header, and the data ~~portion~~ portions collectively including at least the first and second information.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the second computing device is a client computing device.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the operation includes maintaining a session.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the operation includes maintaining a session by addressing a subsequent packet to the first computing device.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 wherein the operation includes modifying state information.

25. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing instructions that, when executed by a first computing device, cause the first computing device to process information by performing a method comprising:

receiving a data stream containing first information that has been formed according to application software instructions;

independent of the application software instructions, forming second information for causing a second computing device to perform an operation;

in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information, executing protocol stack instructions to ~~form a data portion of a packet that includes~~ create one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

outputting the ~~packet~~ one or more packets to the second computing device.

26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the ~~packet is~~ one or more packets are formed in accordance with a network protocol.

27. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the second computing device is a client computing device.

28. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the computer-readable medium is a memory of a computer device.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the contents are instructions that when executed cause the first computing device to perform the method.

31. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the first computing device ~~comprises~~ is an intelligent network interface card.

32. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the second information comprises session maintenance information.

33. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 32 wherein the second information causes the second computing device to migrate an existing session.

34. (Previously presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the second information comprises a cookie.

35. (Currently amended) An information processing system, comprising:
means for receiving a data stream containing first information that has been formed according to application software instructions;

means for forming second information for causing a second computing device to perform an operation, the second information being formed independent of the application software instructions;

means for executing protocol stack instructions in response to receiving the data stream containing the first information thereby ~~forming a data portion of a packet that includes~~ creating one or more packets that include at least the first and second information; and

means for outputting the ~~packet~~ one or more packets to the second computing device.

36. (Currently amended) The information processing system of claim 35 wherein the means for receiving the data stream containing first information comprises a direct memory access module.

37. (Currently amended) The information processing system of claim 35 wherein the means for executing protocol stack instructions ~~comprises a protocol stack processor of~~ is an intelligent network interface card.

38. (Previously presented) The information processing system of claim 35 wherein the second information comprises session maintenance information.

39. (Previously presented) The information processing system of claim 35 wherein the second information comprises state maintenance information.

40. (Previously presented) The information processing system of claim 35 wherein the second information comprises a cookie.

41. (Currently amended) The information processing system of claim 35 wherein the second information causes the [[first]] second computing device to migrate an existing session.

42. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the first computing device ~~comprises~~ is an intelligent network interface card.

43. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the first computing device ~~comprises~~ is an intelligent network interface card.

44. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 25 wherein the first computing device ~~comprises~~ is an intelligent network interface card.

45. (Previously presented) The information processing system of claim 1 wherein the second information causes the second computing device to migrate an existing session.

46. (Previously presented) The information processing system of claim 1 wherein the second information comprises a cookie.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the second information causes the second computing device to migrate an existing session.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the second information comprises a cookie.